

**VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes
January 14, 2019**

<p><u>VMRC SDAC Members - Present</u></p> <p>Karen Bonacci (FA) Claire Lazaro- chair (FA) Alphonse Mickahail- vice chair (FA) Bethany Mickahail (on phone) (FA) Roger Goatcher(FA) Christine Hager (DRC OCRA) Dena Pfeifer(SA) Mohamed Rashid (SA) Martha Arely Solano (FA)</p> <p><u>VMRC SDAC Members- Absent</u></p> <p>Mary Bonacci (SA) Lisa Culley (FA) John Forrest (FA) Gia McElroy (FA) Yadira Placsencia (FA) Liz Zastrow</p> <p><u>Facilitators</u></p> <p>Lori Smith (FA)</p>	<p><u>Guests</u></p> <p>Joe Hernandez- Premiere Healthcare Amy Toy (FA) Traci Garner (SA) Kenneth Garner (SA) Colleen Cohen (?) (FA) on phone could not capture correctly spelling One (FA) guest didn't sign in</p> <p><u>VMRC Staff</u></p> <p>Tony Anderson- Executive Director Cindy Mix- Director of Consumer Services Angelique Shear- Project Manager Elizabeth Diaz- SD Service Coordinator Tania Candelaria- Service Coordinator Carlos Hernandez- Cultural Specialist David Narbona- VMRC Service Coordinator</p> <p><u>SCDD Staff</u></p> <p>Dena Hernandez- North Valley Hill</p> <p>SA= Self Advocate FA= Family Advocate</p>
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Meeting Called to Order

Claire Lazaro-chair called the meeting to order at 2:08pm

Welcome & Introductions- were made by all present and on the phone.

Establish a quorum- quorum was established

Approval of Agenda & Minutes done by one motion

Motion to approve agenda AND minutes by Roger Goatcher/ seconded by Dena Pfeifer. Vote taken and motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment-

Vice chair- Al Mikahail expressed his gratitude to this committee, to VMRC staff, Claire and Dena for all the hard work.

From the phone-

A comment from the public on the phone was made. The comments were a request for more information on the transition to self-determination, more transparency on this programming/strategic planning and have more clarity on the VMRC website/more user friendly

Kenneth & Tracy Garner came into the meeting as guests at this time and introduced themselves.

Dena read a public comment into the record from Najat Oshana who had emailed the questions:

- 1) Why is self determination taking so long to be in effect?
- 2) What role does VMRC have in determining the benefits? To what level of control VMRC would be involved?
- 3) When will “training self determination” specialist call to train us on how to use this program?
- 4) Who is delaying this to take effect? Is there anything we (the 20 individual) chosen do anything to facilitate this long process?

Update on the Self Determination Program Roll out- information

Tony Anderson, VMRC Executive Director, and Cindy Mix VMRC Director of Case Management gave an overview. Cindy shared the following:

- In late December VMRC got info from DDS on Independent Facilitators (IF) and Fiscal Management Services (FMS) guidelines so planning can begin.
- Started vendor process of Fiscal Management Services (FMS)
- As of today- the spending plan has been approved.
- Independent budget vs spending planned was explained. To determine the individual budget- the team will look at the last 12 months of data and the

IPP team decides if this will meet the needs. Adjustments can happen- the regional center will certify the budgets. If a person is new to the regional services and there is not 12 months of data- the team will build the budget based on needs and the regional center will certify the budget. If there is disagreement between the team and the regional center- all appeal rights are still in effect in self determination as in traditional services. The Notice of Action process stays in effect when self determination is in place.

- VMRC will be providing Person Centered Planning trainings in Modesto and Stockton. Dena had sent out a flyer and changes were noted at the meeting. Dena will make changes and send out to all. It will be translated into Spanish as well.
- DDS hired Liz Harrell to oversee the SD trainings. Liz spoke at our SD Symposiums. The hope is the start of the orientation trainings will occur by February 4, 2019.
- Role of the Independent Facilitator (IF)- either paid or not paid will have to be trained at their own expense. Conservators cannot act as a paid IF. The cost of the trainings has not been determined.
- A question from the audience was about a couple when one is in SD and the other is not. A discussion occurred surrounding this and that ultimately- the person centered process and IPP process to play a role in figuring all this out.
- Tony shared that Dian VanMuren who is a retired veteran of public policy world has decided to come back and Tony believes this is a good thing.

SCDD Statewide SDAC Update - Information

Claire Lazaro- reported that the next SCDD Statewide Self Determination meeting will be held on February 21, 2019 in San Diego. The agenda for this meeting will be posted 10 days ahead and the public may listen in only.

Claire also shared that she wanted to respond to the public comments:

- Transparency- VMRC SDAC is trying its best and working on making the VMRC Self Determination tab easier to find and contain information. She also said DDS has current information about the program on their website and people can access that and submit their email address and get notifications.

- Why it is taking so long- the regional centers are waiting on DDS to get all the info to proceed with the trainings. DDS has made some strides on this in the recent month or so.
- Suggestion to map out the timeframe on the website would help with transparency and VMRC will do that.

Other items Claire discussed. VMRC service coordinators can be the Independent Facilitators at no cost to the person.

Next Steps for VMRC SDAC

Clair Lazaro, Chair discussed next steps:

- 1) Person Centered Planning and Thinking training- Claire suggested that everyone attend a Person Centered Planning Training. Dena will update the flyer and send.
- 2) Meeting guidelines for future meetings- Claire reviewed the guidelines.
- 3) Requested again that VMRC invite all of those on the Self Determination list to the next meeting as a way to get new members on this committee maybe a Welcome Packet for those participating in SD can be done.
- 4) Items to be translated into Spanish
- 5) VMRC Self Determination page on the website have added content for ease of navigation and transparency.

VMRC SDAC Membership Update - Information

Dena Hernandez informed the committee that the 4 application that were submitted to SCDD were reviewed and approved by SCDD Membership Committee earlier today. Welcome Lisa Culley, Yadira Plascencia, Mohamed Rashid and Martha Arely Solano to the committee. Dena reminded the committee that SCDD appoints half the members and VMRC appoints the other half. The make-up of the committee must be representative of our 5 counties. The committee is lacking representatives from Amador and Tuolumne. Would suggest that VMRC reach out to anyone from those counties that were selected for SD and invite them to participate at the meeting and think about applying to be on the committee.

Other Items

Dena Hernandez explained information from the SCDD Attorney that members of the public are able to speak up during public comment.

The discussion of Facebook for these meetings was discussed and Dena explained that there is still not clarity on this issue and that it may be a committee decision. She will follow up with SCDD. Members of the audience expressed their concern about using Facebook.

Next Meetings: The Committee agreed to schedule the next 3 months of meetings & all meetings will be at the Stockton VMRC office: * It was noted that two members expressed that Monday meetings are hard for them. The committee agreed that every meeting date wouldn't work for all so strategized on dates that the majority could attend:

Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 10:00am (in the Community Training Room)

Monday, March 18, 2019 at 2pm (in the Cohen Board Room)

Friday, April 26, 2019 at 10:00am (in the Cohen Board Room)

Meeting Adjourned at 3:35pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dena Hernandez- SCDD North Valley Hills